What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for baking an article, the apparatus comprising

a mold comprising mold portions, each mold portion having a baking surface, said mold portions fitting together such that said baking surfaces define a mold cavity,

at least one mold portion having a cavity and having associated therewith a mold stripper, said mold stripper comprising a press plate having a baking surface, said press plate being sized and dimensioned to fit within said mold portion cavity such that said press plate baking surface is flush and contiguous with said associated mold portion baking surface,

said mold portions and said mold stripper being independently movable, whereby said mold portions and mold stripper can be moved together to define a mold cavity in which an article can be baked, and whereby after baking said mold portions can be moved away from the baked article while said baking surface of said mold stripper press plate remains in contact with the baked article to facilitate separation of said associated mold portion baking surface from the baked article.

- 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each mold portion has a cavity therein and a mold stripper associated therewith.
- 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said mold stripper further comprises stripper operation means for moving said mold stripper as desired for baking and releasing the baked article.
- 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said mold cavity is configured for baking a food service article.

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